REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 11-14 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended to better distinguish over the prior art. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Adbi during the interview conducted on July 12, 2005, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bowman (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,623), Richards (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,957), Dillon (U.S. Patent No. 5,727,065), Downs (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,618), Stefik (U.S. Patent No. 5,634,012) and Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,876). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, the applied references, either individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest at least executing accounting to an end user <u>based on a printed page unit</u> that is calculated using at least a printed number, number of pages printed on one sheet, contents total page number and points per page, and only if the encrypted content is decrypted, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 7.

Specifically, both Bowman and Richards pertain to methods and systems used in cable television broadcasts to automatically encrypt/decrypt information so that access is restricted or limited to only customers that have already selected (and paid) to receive cable television broadcasts.

Dillon discloses that periodically, e.g., once a month, the security engine 130 encrypts billing information concerning documents received by the receiving computer 110 during the past month and sends the encrypted billing information to the broadcast center 150. See col. 7, lines 26-30.

Downs discloses a method and apparatus for securely providing data to a user system.

Stefik discloses a feed counting mechanism for reporting fees associated with the distribution and use of digital works.

Johnson discloses that a publisher may permit duplication of materials from the last twelve months for a base fee plus \$1.25 per page, while materials from a prior year are at a lower base fee plus .25 per page. See col. 1, lines 61-65.

In contrast to the claimed invention, the applied references do not disclose or suggest at least executing accounting to an end user <u>based on a printed page unit that is calculated</u> using at least a printed number, number of pages printed on one sheet, contents total page number and points per page, and <u>only</u> if the encrypted content is decrypted. On the contrary, nowhere in the applied references are these features disclose or suggested.

The Examiner agreed that the amendments distinguish the claimed invention over the applied references. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RSE/eks

Date: July 28, 2005

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